

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
700 A-SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE ROOM
JULY 21, 2009
2:00 P.M.

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Mass Transit Department Board met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Committee Chair Richard Sheldon, present and presiding and the following Committee Members answered roll call:

Mr. Richard Sheldon (left early 2:30 p.m.)
Mr. Walt Phillips
Ms. Robin Roberts
Mr. Troy Hicks
Ms. Jane Ratcliff
Ms. Amy Lechuga
Mr. Ernesto Dominguez
Ms. Amy Lechuga (left early 3:42 p.m.)
Ms. Suzanne Fabian (Alternate)

Agenda

1. Call to order.

Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to move item #9 as 2nd item. Robin Roberts seconded. All in favor.

9. Discussion and action on the election of a Vice Chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee for 2009. (CAC)

Item 9: Ernesto Dominguez nominated Jane Ratcliff. Troy Hicks made a motion to approve Jane Ratcliff as Vice Chairperson, Ernesto Dominguez seconded. All in favor.

2. Public Comments

Item 2: Martha Maldonado, member of the public stated that she did not speak English. Ernesto Dominguez translated. She stated that she was aware that there would be another fare increase. She stated that the public had been promised better service and they have not yet seen it. She stated that Route 56 Pellicano and Rojas has a waiting time of an hour and a half before the next bus comes around, so the service needs to get better before they increase the fares. Mr. Banasiak, stated that he had a couple of comments, there will not be a fare increase but there will be daily bus passes and five day passes. He also stated that Sun Metro increased bus services. Daniel Macias another member of the public also complained about the fare increase and schedules. He also made some comments in regards to the dispatchers that cannot make decisions for themselves they have to ask the supervisors. Karen Peissinger another member of the public thanked Sun Metro for the bike racks. She also stated that on the southside of the Northeast Terminal there are some newspaper boxes that are a hazard people,

will cause people to stumble and would like Sun Metro to look into that. George Atkins another member of the public and also a member of Chief Allen's Advisory Board discussed the possibility of making the city a little bit safer. To bring down pedestrian fatalities to "0" and primarily the elderly and to advertise on the buses about the crosswalk intersections. Provide brochures or fliers at various terminals in English and Spanish to educate the public about safe crossing.

3. Approval of the minutes of the CAC meeting of May 19, 2009.

Item 3: Troy Hicks asked if item 12 on the last sentence should read "after that time, new finding or funding will need to be secured in order to continue service." Mr. Banasiak stated that it should read "funding". Ernesto Dominguez also questioned item 9 on the minutes in regards to the removal of Suzanne Fabian and the placement of Troy Hicks. Cynthia Osborn stated that it should have been placed as an agenda item but that she would discuss this item and give an explanation to the committee. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2009, as corrected seconded by Robin Roberts as corrected. All in favor. Minutes approved as corrected.

4. Discussion and action on implementation of By-Laws for CAC. (Assistant City Attorney – Cynthia Osborn)

Item 4: Vice Chairperson Jane Ratcliffe stated that the By-Laws committee had not met. She was asking for suggestions as to what can be done. The vice chair would be the leader of this By-Laws committee temporarily. Walt Phillips made a motion to postpone the action on the implementation of this item for next month's meeting. All in favor.

5. Presentation on bus shelters and standards. (Michael Herrera – Assistant Director)

Item 5: Michael Herrera passed out hard copies of a power point presentation of all different sites that were evaluated by Richard Gonzalez, Transit Supervisor assigned to the Planning Department. Mr. Herrera stated that there is a scoring sheet to qualify for shelters and the maximum number is 73. No action taken.

6. Discussion and action on new Mass Transit Department Board requested statistical reporting. (Jay Banasiak – Director of Sun Metro)

Item 6: Mr. Banasiak discussed and handed out copies on the requested statistical reports. Ernesto Dominguez requested reports on ridership and maintenance. Suzanne Fabian also requested report on the Paratransit missed calls. Robin Roberts made a motion to continue receiving the same information particularly the LIFT. All in favor.

7. Discussion and action on new fare structure for fiscal year 2010. (Jay Banasiak – Director of Sun Metro)

Item 7: Mr. Banasiak stated that Sun Metro will keep the same structure and also be an all day pass for \$3.00 and there will also be a 7 day bus pass for \$10.00. He stated that they are also trying to make the passes available at more places, like banks, grocery stores. No action taken.

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8. Discussion and action to recommend that the City of El Paso request an appointment to the West Texas/El Paso Regional Coordinated Transportation Stakeholder Committee. (CAC)

Item 8: Robin Roberts presented a power point presentation regarding the West Texas/El Paso Regional Committee. She stated that the City of El Paso does not have an appt on this committee and the by-laws need to be changed. Walt Phillips Troy Hicks seconded. All in favor.

Motion made by to adjourn meeting, seconded by Walt Phillips, at 4:00 p.m. all in favor.

Approved as to form:

Department Head/Board Secretary